

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 and add newly written claims 18-21 as follows.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A bistatic laser radar device comprising:
a transmit channel for forming a variable focus~~focused~~ transmit beam, and
a receive channel for forming a variable focus~~focused~~ receive beam, wherein the device is arranged such that all points of~~the~~ focus of the transmit beam and all points of~~the~~ focus of the receive beam fall on a common axis ~~when focused to a distance~~ within the operable distance range of the device.

2. (original) A device according to claim 1 wherein the transmit channel comprises a first optical arrangement configured to form the focused transmit beam and having at least one lens.

3. (original) A device according to claim 2 wherein laser radiation is passed to the first optical arrangement via a transmit optical fibre cable.

4. (original) A device according to claim 3 wherein the focus of the transmit beam is adjustable by variation of the relative position of the first optical arrangement with respect to the exit aperture of the transmit optical fibre cable.

5. (original) A device according to claim 4 wherein the exit aperture is linearly translatable with respect to the first optical arrangement.

6. (previously presented) A device according to claim 1 wherein the receive channel comprises a second optical arrangement configured to form the focused receive beam and having at least one lens.

7. (original) A device according to claim 6 wherein the second optical arrangement is configured to couple received radiation in to a receive optical fibre cable.

8. (original) A device according to claim 7 wherein the focus of the receive beam is adjustable by variation of the relative position of the second optical arrangement with respect to the entry aperture of the receive optical fibre

9. (original) A device according to claim 8 wherein the entry aperture is linearly translatable with respect to the second optical arrangement

10. (previously presented) A device according to claim 9 in which; the exit aperture of the transmit optical fibre is linearly translatable along the optical axis of the first optical arrangement, and the entry aperture of the receive optical fibre is linearly translatable along an axis arranged at a predetermined angle to the optical axis of the second optical arrangement.

11. (original) A device according to claim 10 wherein the predetermined angle is calculated from the inverse tangent of the ratio of the separation of the transmit channel and receive channel to the focal length of the optical arrangement.

12. (previously presented) A device according to claim 1 and further comprising at least one additional receive channel.

13. (original) A device according to claim 12 and comprising at least one additional receive channel to provide at least one additional receive beam, wherein the focus of the at least one additional receive beam is arranged to intersect the focus of the transmit beam within the operable distance range of the device.

14. (previously presented) A device according to claim 1 wherein the device configured to interact with a soft target.

15. (previously presented) A device according to claim 1 wherein the device configured to interact with a distributed target.

16. (previously presented) A device according to claim 1 wherein the transmit beam is formed from radiation having a wavelength in the region of $1.55\mu\text{m}$.

17. (cancelled)

18. (new) A bistatic laser radar device comprising:
a transmit channel for forming a variable focus transmit beam, and
a receive channel for forming a variable focus receive beam, wherein the device is arranged such that all points of focus of the transmit beam and all points of focus of the receive beam fall on a common axis within the operable distance range of the device, wherein each of said channels vary focus by movement along a movement axis and said movement axes are not parallel.

19. (new) A device according to claim 18, wherein said movement axes define an acute angle.

20. (new) A device according to claim 19, wherein each of said channels has an optical lens with a focal length F , one of said channels is displaced from the other of said channels by a distance S , said acute angle is θ and θ is defined by the equation: $\tan \theta \approx S/F$.

21. (new) A bistatic laser radar device comprising:
a transmit channel for forming a variable focus transmit beam, and
a receive channel for forming a variable focus receive beam, wherein the device is arranged such that all points of focus of the transmit beam and all points of focus of the receive beam fall on a common axis within the operable distance range of the device, wherein said channels are separated by a distance S and each of said channels have a lens having a focal length of F and vary focus by movement along a respective movement axis, wherein one of said

movement axes define an acute angle θ with respect to the other of said movement axes and
wherein $\tan \theta \approx S/F$.